

Happy New Year 2022 --a few days late! Hopefully, one of your resolutions was to play more 539 Unit games with us on Sundays.

The San Diego Unit 539 has decided to postpone the return to face-to-face games due to the recent surge of the Covid virus, in particular, the highly transmissible Omicron variant. Sadly, this postponement includes our annual Appreciation Party, which was scheduled to be held on Sunday, January 16th, at the Soledad Club in Pacific Beach. The theme of our 2022 annual Appreciation Party is "*Bridge in Wonderland.*" We plan to welcome ALL our players to recognize your patronage throughout the year. In past years, we have hosted this annual event, subsidized by the Unit, includes a catered luncheon, table decorations made by our board members, door prizes, a delicious array of desserts and two sections (Open and 499er) bridge games.

Additionally, this was an event used to recognize all of the 2019 and 2020 Unit Ace of Clubs and Mini-McKenney winners, as well as those who received special rank promotion awards. Be advised that as soon as we have set a new date for the 2022 Appreciation Party, Unit 539 members who will be receiving a rank award will be personally contacted via email. Our awards Chair-persons, Jane Petering, Mary Rea, and I, have ordered a variety of new rank awards that we are anxious to give our Unit 539 members.

We are looking forward to rescheduling this event as soon as it is safe to do so. Please keep informed on our unit website sandiegobridge.com.

Of course, we all look forward to gathering in person once again; however, for now, our virtual game on BBO will have to serve as a reasonable substitute.

The unit's games (499er, 1499er, Open) are held every Sunday afternoon, and the results appear on ACBL Live at <https://my.acbl.org/club-results/147744> and our Unit website sandiegobridge.com. We are keeping the stratification we've used the last couple of times, hoping to attract more of you back.

Our online December Unit games were successfully run by our Vice-President and Club Manager John Boackle and President Lamya Agelidis, along with great zoom recaps by Wirt Gilliam and Sam Madison. On December 5th, we hosted twenty tables, with Lawrence Sherman and John Howard winning first overall, with an impressive 73.17% game. In the 499er game, we had nine tables, and the game was won by Scott Bonomi and Jennifer Lary with a 66.67% game.

During our December 19th games, there were two incredible 70% wining games. Roger Doughman and Suzanne Lebendig won the 12 tables Open game with an a 76.26% game. In the 9 tables, 499er game, Michael Sloane and Nancy Mogck won with 73.89% game.

Finally, Unit 539 is proud to welcome our new member Donna Evans. In addition, Linda Atkinson, Brian Castle, Michael Goldberg, and Paul Kubiak transferred into our Unit. This past

month, three new milestones were reached: Robert Bushman and Douglas Galasko became our newest Junior Masters, and Jeremy Fields earned the status of Sapphire Life Master, which celebrates achieving over 3500 masterpoints.

Congratulations to all of our winners. Well-done!